

THE OBSERVER



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Issue 5

New Beginnings: The Changing Faces of the S.U.B. Board

By Allison Glidewell, Staff Writer

This January, the Student Union Board (S.U.B.) will undergo its annual change in leadership as this year's officers step down and the new leaders take their places. Twelve students have been selected to fill the positions, and they are currently working with the previous leaders to prepare for the next two semesters.

S.U.B. is the programming board responsible for student activities at SJC. Current director Jackie Whan described S.U.B. as "the pulse of activity" on campus. "We are different from other clubs on campus because we are directly responsible for planning and programming events," she said. S.U.B. selects and organizes Big Screen movies, Puma Movies, game shows, and other special events like homecoming and Little 500 weekend. S.U.B. is also in charge of bringing bands, hypnotists, comedians, and other entertainers to campus.

The current S.U.B. board experienced great success this past year despite changing advisors. Former advisor Dottie Collura stepped down at the end of the 2002-2003 school year, leaving Michele Gunkleman temporarily in charge. Finally, new S.U.B. advisor Aaron Newman arrived at the beginning of the current school year. The 2003 board had to constantly adjust and adapt to the changing leadership. "It was a rough year," reflected Whan, "but

I am proud of the board because we kept things going even when it felt like we were on our own."

The 2003 board witnessed the highest participation in Little Sibs Weekend ever; under the direction of Special Events Coordinator Rachel Lancaster, the event attracted nearly 80 siblings. This year S.U.B. also added brand new events to homecoming week. Traditions Director Amanda Barnhart instituted the first-ever Battle of the Bands, as well as a Spirit Week and bonfire at Lake Banet. Finally, pending approval by the student constitution, S.U.B. will create a brand new position on the board. If the position is approved, Sarah Colvin will serve as Day Student Director for the upcoming year.

The 2004 S.U.B. board is made up of underclassmen, many of whom are completely new to S.U.B. All officers filled out applications and went through an interview process before they were selected. Whan is very positive about the upcoming board. "We actually have two males on the board, which is great. The new board will do great things," she said.

Current Secretary and upcoming Co-Director Angie Quartuccio discussed some of the plans and goals for the 2004 S.U.B. board. She cited more student participation and feedback as her biggest goals. "Right now, we can only plan what we think the students will want," she said. "We need to know what the students really want, so that

participation will increase." She also mentioned a revamped "I Hate Winter Week" and more student-generated activities such as Lip Sync and Mr. /Miss Puma as specific goals for the new board.

Stepping down from office will be a bittersweet change for Whan. After serving on the 2002 S.U.B. Board as Promotions Director and this past year as Director, she has become quite accustomed to life as a S.U.B. member. "I had a lot of fun, and I loved working with the board," she said, "but it will be nice to attend an event I didn't have to plan." Whan is currently working with the old and new boards to wrap up this semester and plan for the spring term.

All students can participate in S.U.B. by joining committees headed by each of the S.U.B. officers; contact an old or new officer for more information. Currently, the 2003 and 2004 S.U.B. boards are working on programming for next semester. Students interested in a director or officer position can fill out an application at the beginning of the 2004-2005 school year.

2004 BOARD:

Director: Casey Wagner

Co-Director: Angie Quartuccio

Treasurer: T.J. Walker

Secretary: Jenny Diaz

Special Events: Susy Fech

Arts/ Bands: Anthony Pentangelo

Travel: Rachel Jarrard

Promotions: Amanda Bartz

Marketing: Kristin Geske

Films: Missy Janowitsch

Traditions: Amanda Barnhart

Day Student (Pending Approval): Sarah Colvin



There will be a Taize prayer service in the Chapel at 8 P.M. on Friday, Nov. 7th. All are welcome and encouraged to bring a pillow for comfortable seating. Come for an hour of communal personal reflection and praise through song. For more information or to become involved in the service, contact John

Ligda at jlj3619@saintjoe.edu.



Remember to vote for your Student Association Executive Board representatives at registration outside the Ballroom on Tuesday, Nov. 11th through Thursday, Nov. 13th.



Whan (center) works with Jarrard (left) and Diaz (right) to plan S.U.B. events.

NEWS

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INDIANAPOLIS

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CROSS COUNTRY PROFILE

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OPINION

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

ET CETERA

PUMA POETRY

Letter to the Editor:

Dear Editor,

You can call me a tree-hugger, eco-friendly, annoying, or someone with way too much time on her hands. I can handle that; it doesn't bother me. But what *does* bother me is the amount of trees that have been destroyed on campus for the sake of construction in the Grotto and Halas walkways over the last month.

I know that it is often necessary to tear down the natural habitat in order for the sake of construction and comfort, but these instances in particular caught my attention. Not only did I have to watch the trees being ruthlessly cut down in front of my dorm, but the trees were left in front of Halas for at least three days before the workers had the good sense to move them.

It was not only an aesthetical issue, but an inconvenience. It made the Grotto virtually inaccessible. The Grotto is a haven for many students to pray, study, or just immerse themselves in thought. Between the actual construction and the environmental mess, its services were temporarily lost to the students.

The front entrance to Halas was also blocked off. Even after the trees were moved, there were branches lying everywhere. While it is general knowledge that I am clumsier than most people, I managed to get caught more than once in stray branches and had scratches to prove it. This could have been avoided if the construction team had been more responsible with cleaning up their mess.

Trees are a valuable asset to not only the SJC community, but the entire world. They naturally block noise, absorb CO2 as well as provide oxygen, and assist in natural water recycling and flood control. Plus, they provide a home for all those resident squirrels on campus!

I do not believe in causing a stir, though, unless I have a viable solution. And I do. I propose that various Puma clubs volunteer their organization to plant a tree somewhere on campus for every one that was destroyed due to the recent construction. It is important for the conservation of the environment, and as an added bonus, it would improve the aesthetic quality of our campus. Plus, it would get annoying "tree-huggers" like me off your back.

-- Melissa Genova, Senior

Dear SJC Seniors,

Whether in December or May, your college graduation will soon be upon you. Many of you are engaged in a process to examine your interests, values, skills, hopes, and dreams and have begun to discern the next steps of your vocations and careers. Many of you are considering your future leadership roles in the world around you. Many of you are in the midst of making tough vocational decisions. I have observed in the past few weeks, however, that many of you are not yet engaged in this process.

I write to suggest to you that the time to ask yourselves the tough questions of vocations and careers is not at your graduation in December or May. The time to ask yourselves these tough questions is now. Now is the time to engage in the process, set up action plans, and solicit the help that you need to achieve your goals.

Your class is under 200 in number. One of the many advantages

of having a graduating class of this size is that you have the opportunity to create a unique atmosphere of support and commitment on campus during this time of transition. Yes, spend time having fun, participating in campus activities, and enjoying each other's company. Do take the time, however, to begin to ask yourselves the tough questions: What are your plans after graduation? What are your options? How are you going to achieve your goals?

Take time now to prepare for your future. Help to create an atmosphere of support and commitment among your class. Solicit guidance and assistance from SJC faculty, staff, and the Career Development Center.

These are some of my hopes and prayers for each of you in the SJC senior class.

-- Adam Malson, Director
of Career Development

AVAILABLE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND RESPECTIVE APPROXIMATE DEADLINES:

ENTRY-LEVEL EMPLOYMENT:

Education, Business/Commerce, Government, Social Services, etc.
Applications and Interviews: Now – after graduation

GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL:

Master's Degree Programs, Medical School, Law School, Doctoral Programs, etc.

GRE/MCAT/LSAT: Winter and Spring

Applications Due: Spring

ALTERNATIVE SERVICE PROGRAMS:

AmeriCorps, Jesuit Volunteer Corps, Teach For America, etc.

Applications Due: Spring

RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS:

College/University Ministry, Youth Ministry, Faith-based service organizations, Priesthood, etc.
Ongoing discernment process

Hygienic Guidelines

A parody of Charles Bukowski's "My Madness"

By Natalie Lapacek, Features Editor

Cleanliness is a good thing.

Showers should be taken once a day (preferably in the morning) and teeth should be brushed in the morning and at night; brushing them after lunch is completely optional. These are the necessities of cleanliness. There are also other elements of cleanliness that one should keep in mind as well: scrubbing fingernails to keep dirt from getting under them, keeping away from dust when wearing sandals, and keeping hands spotless. This latter element, however, is one that many do not practice as they should.

Everywhere you go, you see people completely avoiding soap and water when it comes to their hands. They simply wipe them off on their pants or, worse yet, *lick* the fingertips. These two methods are completely unacceptable. Hands go everywhere with the body and are constantly exposed to the environment surrounding them. Since many do not practice suitable methods of cleanliness, the hands usually come in contact with countless instances of filth, whether seen or unseen.

The only way to keep up with the dirtiness around you is to practice what could very well be known as a lost art: hand-washing. Hand washing requires nothing more than some soap and water. Make sure the water is as hot as you can stand it and that the soap is antibacterial and potent enough that it will most likely dry out your hands. Yes, dry hands are most unappealing, but filth is even more so. Also, please note that moles or birthmarks will not wash off hands. Even with a Brillo pad.

Hand washing needs to be done at least once every hour for optimal cleansing. And no, wearing gloves will not help the matter. Gloves make the hands sweat and sweat does not amount to anything more than filth.

Even with hand washing, napkins during meals are a must. Never use a napkin more than once—once you wipe off that grime, keep it away! Cloth napkins may be hazardous; try to avoid them at all costs.

Keep these guidelines in mind for optimal cleanliness. Don't listen to tree huggers who scold you for killing a rainforest during a meal due to your heap of napkins or environmentalists who scowl at you in the bathrooms for how much water you use. Simply remember that they would live in utter filth with monkeys if they could.

PAWS:

...to everyone who passed out candy to the Diversity Coalition trick-or-treaters on Oct.30.



CLAWS:

...to everyone who smashed people's pumpkins this Halloween.

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The marching Pumas of SJC stand before a crowd of well-wishers at the Marching Band State Finals.

SJC Band Travels to Indianapolis

By Katie Davet, Staff Writer

On October 25th, 17 members of the SJC marching band traveled to Indianapolis to perform at the RCA Dome in the Marching Band State Finals competition. Performing patriotic songs such as the National Anthem for an estimated crowd of 30,000 people, the band was excited to have such an audience. "I was very impressed," said senior Michael Dougherty. "The crowd was enormous."

Charles R. Briel, the executive director of the Indiana State School Music Association (I.S.S.M.A.), extended the invitation to perform at the event. College bands are asked to perform annually at the high school competition; usually a larger school receives the invitation. Under the direction of Associate Professor of Music Robb Thiel, only the brass section was involved in the performance, as no more than a 25-piece band was permitted to perform. "I thought it was amazing to hear our brass section stand alone and we

sounded great, which gives me hope that we can become the band we have the potential to be," said junior Kyle Gulick.

Thiel was honored to have the band featured at this event for the first time. "It was a long day but very rewarding for our students. We were given a pass that allowed us to go anywhere in the RCA Dome, and our room was right next to the Colts locker room. The band sounded great and I think everyone had a good time," said Thiel.

"It was an amazing experience. To see so many people there to watch the musicians was really inspiring," added junior Cortny Woodruff.

Abby Thiel, junior, agreed with Woodruff. "It was awesome to be given the chance to play in front of thousands of people and to have an experience that not many people get to have in a lifetime," she said. "It was great seeing a lot of young musicians perform at such a high level."

SJC Offers Spring Trip to Rome

By Renee Pugh, Publications and Media Relations Intern

This spring, Saint Joseph's College is offering a week-long trip to Rome, bringing to life the people and places studied in Western Civilization Core. The trip takes place from Mar. 5-12 and coincides with the College's spring vacation. A special invitation is also extended to alumni, parents, friends and all students of the College, as well as members of the local community. The trip is being organized by Global Holidays, a travel agency that organized a successful trip to Ireland for the Alumni Association this past September.

Though this is the third year an overseas trip has been offered to students, it is the first year it has been extended to other interested parties. "When I first organized the trip three years ago, my main goal was to encourage overseas travel to sophomores who were learning all these great things about Europe in Cores Three and Four," explained the trip's sponsor, Director of Core Four and Associate Professor of

Economics and Finance Michael Oakes. "Now, the trip is less tightly connected to these specific Cores, as SJC believes it is important for people, especially students, to get overseas and experience other cultures. It is an important part of a having a well-rounded education."

The trip costs \$1,299, which includes airfare and hotel accommodations. Additional charges include \$109 in government taxes, security charges and fees. Travelers may also choose to take an optional one-day excursion to Florence or Pompeii for an additional charge.

In order for a spot to be secured, registration forms should be completed and packages should be paid in full by Dec. 15. "The trip fills up in a short time, so those wishing to go should act quickly," said Oakes.

For more information concerning the trip to Rome, contact Oakes at (219)866-6353 or mjoakes@saintjoe.edu.



Rev. Paul White and Rev. Lawrence Heiman celebrate their many years of service to the C.P.P.S. community.

Feast of St. Gaspar Honors C.P.P.S Members

By Renee Pugh, Publications and Media Relations Intern

On October 21st, SJC celebrated its annual Feast of Saint Gaspar del Bufalo with a special Mass of Thanksgiving in the Saint Joseph's Chapel. This year's feast also recognized Rev. Lawrence Heiman, C.P.P.S. '40, and Rev. Paul White, C.P.P.S. '54 as they celebrated ordination anniversaries as members of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood.

Heiman, who celebrated his 60th ordination anniversary, is a graduate of SJC and has made numerous contributions to the SJC community through the music program, including founding both the Rensselaer Program of Church Music and Liturgy in 1960, which he directed for 35 summers, and the Gregorian Chant Institute in 1998, a one-week program that takes place before the College's summer session. Heiman also holds a master's degree in Gregorian Chant and a doctoral degree in Sacred Music from the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music in Rome, one of

only a handful of people with a doctorate from the Institute.

White, also a graduate of SJC, is celebrating 50 years with the C.P.P.S. He has been a member of the SJC community as a student, professor, and administrator. In addition to teaching courses in Economics and Religion at SJC, he has also held the positions of Business Manager, Parents Association Moderator, Executive Vice President, Alumni Director, and Director of Campaigns. White received the Alumni Service Award in 1970 for his efforts, and today, he is the Administrator for two parishes in Francesville and Medaryville, Indiana.

White and Heiman both currently reside at SJC.

The Feast Day of Saint Gaspar celebrates Saint Gaspar del Bufalo, the founder of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, or C.P.P.S. The C.P.P.S. is the religious organization that founded and sponsors SJC.

S.I.F.E. Hosts Free Enterprise Day

By Renee Pugh, Publications and Media Relations Intern

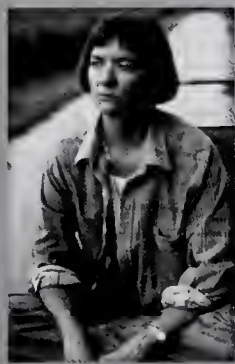
Students In Free Enterprise (S.I.F.E.), a Saint Joseph's College student organization designed to spread business knowledge to students on campus, sponsored its 23rd annual Free Enterprise Day for high school students on Oct. 29 at 8 a.m. in the Halleck Student Center Ballroom.

For Free Enterprise Day, each student was part of a group, or "company." Each "company" spent the morning creating a marketing plan for an assigned product. This year, students were assigned to create a cell phone for teenagers. "The event called for teamwork and innovative thinking on the part of participating students," said S.I.F.E. president Bill Hardy, a junior at SJC. "It required students to think outside of the box."

Awards for the best marketing plan were presented in the afternoon. Kankakee Valley High School took home first place honors, while Carmel High School garnered a second place showing. Rensselaer High School took home the third place prize.

Free Enterprise Day provides S.I.F.E. members with an opportunity to work with people off campus and throughout different communities in the region. "This was a good kick-off project for our S.I.F.E. team," said Hardy. "This project helps establish connections with the teachers, which opens the door for future S.I.F.E.-sponsored projects at their schools."

For more information about S.I.F.E., contact Hardy at SIFE@saintjoe.edu.



VISITING POET Dr. Patti White OF BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

White, BSU Professor of English and winner of the 2001 Anhinga Prize for Poetry, will appear at SJC to read her works on Thursday, Nov. 13.

Watch for flyers with place and time.

Student Kairos Reflection

By Adam Lottino,
Guest Writer

I have to admit that before I went on Kairos, I had no idea what to expect. I also must admit that I had journeyed away from God. The time I spent at Kairos hearing the stories and reflections of others touched me in a way that I can't express in words.

I can recall one specific moment at the retreat that shattered the barrier I had blocking me from my own spirituality. After that moment, I listened to people better; I was itching to know more about people and wanted to help them. I began to realize the importance of establishing a relationship with God.

Kairos, in many ways, showed me who I am. It opened my eyes and ears to all the facets of life and helped me to understand how one should live one's life, and how uplifting time with God can be. When times get tough, there is one who is always there for you, and that is God. Life will come easier to anyone who makes time for Him.

I encourage anyone to go on the Kairos retreat. If you have been on retreats in the past you probably have a good idea as to how it can affect your life. The friends you will meet will last a lifetime, as will the memory of the experience.

To the Kairos XXXVI retreatants:
"Live the Fourth!"

Slam Poet Visits SJC

By Natalie Lapacek, Features Editor

Slam poetry is something that may be familiar to those from cities or at least populated areas, but if you're like me and from a town that has a population of about ten (including the cows), you may not be too familiar with this form of poetry. Sure, you may have heard of it and may even believe that it's something like the dance or rap songs you hear on the radio, but slam poetry is an art form that is contemporary, upbeat, and way more heartfelt and intense than any pop song you'll ever hear. Thanks to Kayo, a slam poet from Long Island, I have a basis for this observation.

Kraal Yoswa Charles, widely known as "Kayo," came to SJC to share his work with students on October 20th. During his visit, Kayo shared his views and experiences through his quick-paced, punchy poems. Some of these poems included "18/38," "How Will We Know?" and "I Can Move Mountains." The topics of his work could be referred to as lessons he had learned through his experiences in life. "18/38" was about the excitement, pain, and frustration of dating an older woman at a young, impressionable age. "How Will We Know?" tells its readers or listeners that we are mere human beings in a huge universe and that complete knowledge is impossible. "I Can Move Mountains" was a very inspirational poem about overcoming impediments to success and well being; before the poem was read, Kayo had described the theme by say-



Photo Courtesy of kayospeaks.com

ing, "Each and every one of us can move obstacles in our path." Kayo had even included a sort of interactive poem in his reading. Before he began reading the poem "Peace," he had the audience sing "Pe-eace, uh-huh," over and over while clapping to a slow, simple beat; as he recited the poem, the audience stopped singing but continued the clapping, which really brought out the rhythm of the piece.

Along with the numerous other poems he read, Kayo put on a remarkable performance. This isn't surprising, though, considering how famous this slam poet really is. Kayo has been all around the nation sharing his work; he has been to places such as Pittsburgh and the Poet's Café in New York City.

In February, he's planning to take a trip to Colorado, one of the few states to which he has not been with his performances. The biggest crowd Kayo has read to was one of 5,000 people—quite a vast amount compared to the couple rows filled in the Shen auditorium the night he visited SJC. Kayo has also read his poems "18/38" and "I Am" on HBO. This success did not happen overnight, though, and Kayo had not always planned on being a well-known slam poet. Though he had always been interested in poetry because of his poet father, Kayo had gone to college to major in marketing, which obviously did not turn out to be his central area of interest. He had, however, become inter-

ested in hip-hop; he began writing his own lyrics, hoping to be a rapper. However, he became tired of the negative messages associated with hip-hop, so he began performing slam poetry in 1998.

Kayo put on a performance here at SJC that was truly magnificent, and if you missed it, you should either check out his website, www.kayospeaks.com, or buy his book or CD of poetry, *Bridges to Build, Rivers to Cross, Mountains to Move*. His poetry is guaranteed to inspire, bring out a few laughs, and make one appreciate the music of words much more than any cheesy pop song.

Stuff



Brian Bugajski
Columnist

We go to school in the middle of a cornfield where nothing important has ever happened, right? Wrong! If we could take a trip back in time to 1965 we could see that SJC made the national headlines. It all started the night of Halloween, 1965 when the painting titled, "The Virgin and Child with St. Nicholas of Bari and a Donor," disappeared.

The November 3, 1965 issue of *Stuff* reported that, "The painting was stolen from the college library between 10 p.m. Sunday (Oct. 31) and 7:30 a.m. Monday (Nov. 1)." "The Virgin and Child with St. Nicholas of Bari and a Donor" was thought to be painted in 1507 by Giovanni Bellini, a famous Renaissance artist.

The late Bohumir Kryl, a Bohemian immigrant famous for being a cornetist under John Philip Sousa, donated the painting to SJC. "Kryl willed the painting to Saint Joseph's in 1958 but the work was not brought to the college until July of 1961," stated the November 2, 1965 issue of the *Rensselaer Republican*. Kryl, who said that he was offered that sum for the painting, estimated the painting at \$350,000. The

Chicago Tribune declared that, "At that valuation, the burglary is the largest single art theft since Goya's portrait of the Duke of Wellington was stolen from Britain's National gallery in 1961."

The FBI joined Rensselaer police and the Jasper County Sheriff's department in an attempt to recover the artwork and apprehend the burglars. Their efforts came to fruition in early 1967 when FBI agents watching a framing shop in Chicago noticed that a woman in nun's clothing entered the shop with a large cardboard parcel and exited with a smaller package. Agents realized the larger package was the Bellini artwork and followed the nun from the shop to a nearby church. The nun entered the church and transferred the package to a man located there. The

agents then arrested the man, Joseph A. Riso, on the spot. The April 7, 1969 edition of the *Rensselaer Republican* reported, "Riso was given an eight-year federal prison term March 19, 1968, under terms of a federal law prohibiting receiving stolen items worth \$5,000 or more in interstate commerce. He was convicted by a U.S. District Court jury in Chicago Feb. 5, 1968."

"The painting was recovered," says the SJC chronology, "and is now stored in a safer place. Its value was also later reassessed as something more in the neighborhood of \$20,000." So, the next time you think SJC is unknown in the real world, remember the Bellini caper of 1965 when we had our 15 minutes of fame.

Want to write features? Email Natalie Lapacek at
nli4438@saintjoe.edu.

Syling Sense Glowing from the Inside Out



Jen Zak
Columnist

As winter approaches, skin has a tendency to become rough, flaky, and dry. Dry skin does not make for a cuddling session. In order to fully enjoy canoodling by the glow of the TV, it is necessary to moisturize. This goes for the guys, too; the rough and tough man thing does tend to get a little tired sometimes. Moisturizing does not just apply to hands, but also to the face, lips, and rest of the body. Soft and smooth skin

can easily be accomplished with help from the right tools.

Exfoliating is one step people often tend to forget. This involves sloughing off all the dead and dry skin that tends to accumulate. If done properly skin should give off a healthy glow. Exfoliating creams and cleansers tend to get pricey, but a great brand that works very well is Dove Exfoliating Moisturizing Body Wash (\$5 at Wal-Mart), and at 24 ounces a bottle, it is sure to last a long time. Another great exfoliate is St. Ives Apricot Scrub (\$2.50 at Wal-Mart), a classic that still does the trick.

Cleansers are the most common of skin care essentials, and some of the best and cheapest available are Clean and Clear Continuous Control Acne Wash (\$4.47 at Wal-Mart), and L'Oreal Pure Zone (\$5.94 at Wal-Mart). L'Oreal tends to get pricey, but their entire line

of Pure Zone products promises very positive results.

The last and most important step is moisturizing. The following lotions lock in moisture and keep the outside forces from drying out and chapping the skin. Jergens Ultra Healing Lotion is a great buy at \$4.54 for a 30 fl. oz. bottle. For nighttime protection, Johnson's Bedtime Lotion (\$4.54 at Wal-Mart) not only serves as a moisturizer, but also contains lavender and other ingredients that guarantee to soothe and relax. For skin comfort and shimmer, try Jergens Soft Shimmer Body Lotion (\$4.83 at Wal-Mart) which adds a glow to increase the look of healthy skin.

Moisturizing increases the look and feel of skin, and if everyone takes the time to exfoliate, cleanse, and moisturize, a happy and comfortable winter season will be had by all.

Book Review

By Liz Henning,
Staff Writer

While wandering around the SJC bookstore last week, I spotted a copy of Maya's Angelou's *A Song Flung Up to Heaven* among the required books for Core I. Having heard rave reviews when it was first released, I bought it and added it to my stack of books that I planned to read. My only regret is that I didn't immediately set aside everything else to read it! The final of her autobiographical novels, *A Song Flung Up to Heaven* is every bit as perfectly wrought as her previous works, and brings to full circle the story of Angelou's extraordinary life. Beginning with Angelou's departure from an African University, the novel chronicles several years in her adult life, including accounts of the son she raised, the success of her musical career, and her civil rights work with activists Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr. Such well-known characters as her brother, Bailey, and her irascible mother, Vivian Baxter—and even a memory of her grandmother in Stamps, Arkansas—return to print, still seeming as fresh as when they were first introduced. Rather than being a capstone to her work, *A Song Flung Up to Heaven* is the final link in a cyclic chain of events, the last line of this book being identical to the first line in *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* (her first autobiographical novel). A beautifully crafted story of human spirituality and strength in the midst of social struggles, *A Song Flung Up to Heaven* is a novel, an inspirational work, and a true literary treasure.

Columbian Players See *The Lion King*

By Melissa Alba, Staff Writer

Members of the Saint Joseph's College Columbian Players went to see *The Lion King* in Chicago's Cadillac Palace on October 30, 2003. Everyone laughed at Zazu's witty comments like, "This never happened in the movie!" and, "It looks like a curtain from Pier One." Timon was annoying and could be better. Pumbaa was hilarious! Little Nala and Simba were cute! Their voices were wonderful, especially Rafiki and Nala. All in all, we had a great time (even though we were in the nosebleed section)!

I think *The Lion King* is one of Disney's best-animated films, and the stage version is one of the finest Broadway musical spectacles ever. *The Lion King*



deserves the numerous awards and the filled houses it plays in nine cities: New York, Tokyo, Osaka, London, Toronto, Los Angeles, Hamburg, and Chicago, in addition to the Nation Tour. In the six

years since *The Lion King* stampeded onto the stage, the power and intimacy of the stage gave life to the film and to all who witness this wonderful show. *The Lion King* is the most elaborate and eye-catching visual I have ever seen. It defies description, and I'll not desecrate it with more meaningless hyperbole.

One can analyze and compare *The Lion King* with other great Broadway shows, but that futile exercise would never do the show justice. When a lion roars, we don't evaluate the sound, we shudder with fear. *The Lion King's* noise, however, is music to our ears.

Go see it. You'll have a roaring good time!



By Katie Grgic, Staff Writer

SJC Play Review: *Fools*



If you missed the presentation of Neil Simon's play *Fools* on the SJC stage, you missed out on an evening of whimsy and hilarity. The sharp wit and endearing humor in this play held one's attention throughout its duration and the talented cast members delivered unforgettably comical performances.

Leon Tolchinsky (Chris Moran) is a schoolteacher who comes to the town of Kolyenchicov in response to an ad from Dr. Zubritsky (Andrew Jandraszak) seeking a teacher to educate his daughter. Leon is only in town for a short period of time before he learns through his interaction with townspeople Snetsky, the Shepherd (Georganne Weber); Slovitch, the Butcher (Tim Hayes); Mishkin, the

Postman (Melissa Genova); and Yechna, the Vendor (Kelly Bielak) that things in Kolyenchicov are not quite...right. For example, Snetsky can't remember her name, and she has lost her sheep. Yechna is selling flowers, but hawks her wares as fresh fish.

It is only when Leon meets the Doctor, his wife Lenya (Rachel Lancaster), and his daughter Sophie (Jessica Harris) that he learns of the curse that has been placed on the town. A long time ago, Sophia Zubritsky fell in love with Casmir Youskevitch. Sophia's father opposed the marriage, and Casmir killed himself. As a result of his rage and grief, Casmir's father Vladimir Youskevitch calls down a curse upon the town of Kolyenchicov. Only when a Zubritsky marries a Youskevitch

or Sophie is educated will the curse be broken.

Leon is determined to break the curse by educating Sophie, but his resolve is complicated by the fact that he only has 24 hours to break it before he becomes subject to the curse. Further complications include his rapidly growing love for Sophie and Count Youskevitch (Caleb Wilson), who is also vying for Sophie's affections. In the end, Leon, willing to give up everything, including his mind, for Sophie, devises a plan that allows him to free the people of Kolyenchicov and marry Sophie as well.

The play's continual slapstick humor and sharp one-liners made the show hysterically funny. According to sophomore Kara Marxer, "The play was

hilarious. I haven't laughed that hard in a long time!" However, the humor was not the only reason this play was so enjoyable. Jacob Lofgren, junior, put it best: "*Fools* was one of the funniest plays that I have ever seen performed live. At the same time, it proved to be a very intriguing satire on life." *Fools* made a social commentary on the importance of love and the freedom and power that knowledge holds. This play was moving, poignant, and a side-splitting comedy all in one, and the SJC cast did it justice by delivering some of the best performances I have seen thus far in my years here at SJC.

Be sure to keep an eye out for *The Crucible*, the next show to grace the SJC stage.

Adam Mandon Speaks:

NBA Preview



This season has more drama to it than any other season I can think of. Questions of the season range from phenoms to fogies, from potential to power trips. The most intriguing, as always, is "Who will stand atop Mount Olympus when it's done? Who will rise above all others, willing to stand in the spotlight, caressing the golden ball and net?" My answer: none other than the Sacramento Kings.

Any logical person would look to the West to find the champion, and Sacramento is the best of them all. Sacramento's best chance to win the championship was two years ago, but with so many teams in the midst of major transformations, it only seems logical that the team with the most chemistry will take the gold. The Lakers are in the middle of "Days of Our Lives;" Mark Cuban again has decided to add to his fantasy roster in acquiring Antwaan Jamison and Antoine Walker. Little did he realize that Nick Van Exel was the sparkplug of that team. He will be missed sorely in Big-D.

Finally, the defending champion San Antonio Spurs are without David Robinson for the first time. No big deal, right? Wrong! Rasho Nestrovich is soft on the inside. He will try to move into David Robinson's neighborhood, but Spurs fans will want to evict him by February.

The Kings play defense, which is something that cannot be said for the Lakers and Mavericks. Pesky defenders such as Mike Bibby and Bobby Jackson always seem to shut down the big-

ger scorers. They are a physical team with big guys like Brad Miller, Vlade Divac, and smaller, tough guys like Doug Christie. This team will pound opponents into submission. They are simply not afraid to use every single one of their six fouls in order to decimate opponents' hopes of victory.

They can score a little, too. Chris Webber continues to be one of the best all-around players in the game (when healthy!). Swingman Peja Stojakovic can spot up anywhere on the floor and shoot. Center Brad Miller can hit a jumper from twenty feet out. This will cause major match-up problems for many teams, in that they will have to pull their center from under the basket to the top of the key. This will allow Chris Webber to take the ball to the basket and turn in an "ESPN Top Ten Nominee" every night. Bibby has great vision of the court. He has played with this team for three years now, and he knows the tendencies of this teammate; he will be even better this year.

Sacramento's bench is also one of the deepest in the game. Losing Hedo Turkoglu hurts, but Bobby Jackson, Anthony Peeler, Gerald Wallace, and Vlade Divac all bring a spark into the game. Jackson, Peeler, and Wallace give the energy and scoring; Divac brings the defense.

Finally, Sacramento has intangibles. They play in front of the best fans in the NBA who seem to create a circus-like atmosphere every night. Head Coach Rick Adleman has this team disciplined. They respect one another and they know their limitations. No single player shoots for thirty points. They want to win.

The key to success is teamwork and the Kings core has played together the longest out of all the contending teams in the West. They are the Atlanta Braves and Buffalo Bills of basketball, much potential but little results. The Braves took the series in 1995. The Kings will be crowned in 2003-2004.

Attention:

Fans ~ Coaches ~
Teammates

If you would like to nominate a student as the athlete of the issue, please contact Sports Editor Bridget Newman: bnh3998@saintjoe.edu. Briefly explain why you believe the athlete deserves to be praised!



Do you agree or disagree with Adam Mandon's thoughts? Care to share? Contact Sports Editor Bridget Newman at bnh3998@saintjoe.edu to comment in the next issue of The Observer!



Puma Fan Club



Spot your fellow Pumas at soccer, volleyball, and IM kickball games!

Alexis Virtue:

Women's Cross Country and the Leader of Their Pack



Casey Wagner
Reporter

Alexis Virtue began running in the sixth grade under the influence of her "secret coach," her grandfather. Alexis' inspiration and motivation to run lies with her family; her grandfather, aunt, and uncle all run. However, when her high school team finished second in state, the motivation was drawn from her coach. Two weeks before the competition her coach passed away, and the team seemed to pull together and take second place in his honor.

The difference between running at the high school level and running here at SJC is the competition, Alexis said. "It is definitely more competitive here, than it was in high school." Also the issue of time management seems to be more of an issue at the college level for the athlete. Alexis had to adjust to the increased track season. The season

here at SJC is from January to May; high school was an abbreviated version.

With Regionals next week at Grand Valley State University, Alexis commented that practices have been more focused on expectations and motivations that will benefit the team, and her role as captain has played a part in motivating the team to strive for success. It is easy to see her as a leader especially when "to give anything less than your best is a sacrifice" is the quote she lives by. She feels that the close knit cross country team will do well.

Alexis, an elementary education major and math and science minor, plans on teaching in Indianapolis upon graduation. In order to make this dream a reality she has to achieve her goal for next semester to find a balance between track and student teaching. Along with this time management goal she plans on having a lot of fun especially with the friends she may have to part ways with after graduation.

The Details

Major/Minor:
Elementary Education /
Math & Science

Favorites:
Professor- Dr. Ryan
Class- General Methods
Movie- "Shawshank
Redemption"
Color- Blue
Food- Ice cream—any
flavor!
TV Show- "Friends"
Song- "Here Without
You" by Three Doors
Down
Band- U2
Book- Anything Shel
Silverstein's written

**Support your Puma runners
at the Great Lakes Regional at
Grand Valley State
University on November 8th.**

Great Sports Quotes

They were so good we had to share two!

"The trouble with
officials is they just
don't care who
wins."

Tommy Canterbury
College basketball coach

On females officiating in the NBA
"Incompetence should
not be confined to one
sex."

Bill Russell
Coach, Olympian

If you're interested in writing for the sports pages
contact Bridget Newman at bnh3998@saintjoe.edu
Gain job-related experience!

Create material for your portfolio!
You have opportunity for advancement!
You will have fun!

Upcoming Puma Games and Updates



Congratulations to all
our Fall Sports on a
great season played!

Check out the final
team records on the
Saint Joseph's athletic
webpage at:
[www.saintjoe.edu/
ahtletics/sports.php](http://www.saintjoe.edu/ahtletics/sports.php)

Men's Tennis
Nov. 8
Tennessee State
away
10:00am
**Last game until
February**

Cross-Country
Nov. 22
Division II
National Champion-
ships
North Carolina
Last meet

Volleyball
Nov. 7th
7:00pm
Home
Last Game

Football
November 15th
against Butler
1:00pm
Away
Last Game

Basketball season be-
gins on November 15th!

See you in the Richard
F. Scharf Alumni
Fieldhouse this
season!

Madame Sandra's Horoscopes

Aries (March 21-April 19)

It's okay to let yourself go now and then and relax and have fun. Many of your closest friends never get to see this side of you, and when they do they will be pleasantly surprised. Let your hair down and have fun!

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Many of the things and people that usually bring you pleasure have been annoying you recently. Be careful not to let on these temporary feelings to others around you, because they may not understand and become offended.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

This is an excellent time to do some shopping. You have a heightened sense of bargain-finding, and you will be able to find many excellent deals; however, be sure not to spend too much money on something you don't need.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

You may notice that many of the people around you seem irritated with you. Have you been considerate of others' needs? If not, remember that flexibility is key; getting your way all the time is not always best.

Leo (July 23-August 22)

This is a good time to explore your future career and your job possibilities. Even if you are unsure of what you want for your future, researching and even sending out a résumé could prove to be very profitable.

Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Do you often ignore that little voice inside of your head? If so, it is important that you start paying attention. Your intuition is often your best sense, and ignoring it could cause devastating effects to your life.

Libra (September 23-October 23)

Taking some time off for yourself will be the best thing for your life right now. You need to spend some time reflecting and thinking of what in your life needs to change, so take a long walk and rely on yourself for your answers.

Scorpio (October 24-November 21)

Take much care when planning any major changes in your life. It is very easy right now to jump into something that looks good at first sight, but in your haste you may make a terrible mistake. Think long and hard before doing anything.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

If you've recently entered into a new relationship, either romantic or friendly, it is best to voice your opinions and beliefs now before you become too emotionally involved. It's in your best interest to find out now if you have conflicting views.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

You've been very dissatisfied with your current academic or work life, and this has been affecting your personal and social life. Remember to keep these two areas separate, and you will experience great enjoyment in your personal life.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

You have been having a difficult time getting close to someone you know, possibly because of some offensive things this person has said. Remember that he/she is only trying to be close to you, so lighten up and focus on how good this person makes you feel.

Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Have you been feeling dissatisfied or restless recently? Many of these feelings can be remedied by doing simple things such as eating healthily and exercising, so have a banana and go for a walk or run.

Today In History

1813—Chilpancingo congress declares Mexico independent of Spain
1844—Spain grants Dominican Republic independence
1850—1st Hawaiian fire engine
1860—Abraham Lincoln (R-Ill-Rep) elected 16th President
1869—1st intercollegiate football (soccer) game (Rutgers 6, Princeton 4)
1913—Mohandas K Gandhi arrested for leading Indian miners march in South Africa
1917—Bolshevik revolution begins with the capture of the Winter Palace
1918—Republic of Poland proclaimed
1923—USSR adopts experimental calendar, with 5-day "weeks"
1935—Maiden flight by Canada's Hawker Hurricane military plane
1936—RCA displays TV for the press
1939—WGY-TV (Schenectady, NY), 1st commercial TV station, begins service
1952—1st hydrogen bomb exploded (by US at Eniwetok Atoll)
1956—Holland & Spain withdraw from Olympics, protest Soviets in Hungary
1966—1st entire lineup televised in color (NBC)
1967—US launches Surveyor 6; makes soft landing on moon Nov. 9
1977—39 killed in an earthen dam burst at Toccoa Falls Bible College, GA
1978—Shah of Iran places Iran under military rule
1985—22nd Space Shuttle Mission (61A) -Challenger 9- lands at Edwards AFB
1985—Exploratory well at Ranger TX, explodes, spilling 6.3 m gallons of oil
1988—Steve Jones wins NY men's marathon; Grete Waitz 9th women's title
1989—US marshals & FCC seize pirate radio station WJPL in Brooklyn
1990—Fire destroys some of Universal Studio's stages
1993—Next transit of Mercury
Courtesy of www.scopesys.com/anyday/

ATTENTION STUDENTS:

Do you have an original poem, short story, comic, or any other creative expression that you would like to see printed on the Et Cetera page of The Observer? Please contact Sandra at swh4014@saintjoe.edu for information or to submit your work.

Useless Trivia...

~Annually 17 tons of gold is used to make wedding rings in the United States.
~As an iceberg melts, it makes a fizzing sound because of the compressed air bubbles popping in the ice.
~Being unmarried can shorten a man's life by ten years.
~Every U.S. bill, regardless of denomination, costs just 4 cents to make.
~If someone flew once around the surface of the moon, it would be equal to a round trip from New York to London.
Courtesy of www.amusingfacts.com

Upcoming Holidays

NOVEMBER

- 6 Saxophone Day
- National Nachos Day
- 7 National Bittersweet Chocolate with Almonds Day
- 8 Crystal Night (Hebrew)
- St. Claude's Day (patron of sculptors)
- 9 Berlin Wall Opening Day (Germany)
- Sadie Hawkins Day
- 10 Tulip Lantern Festival (Switzerland)
- National Vanilla Cupcake Day
- 11 Veterans Day
- Remembrance Day
- Eleven Eleven Eleven Day (Netherlands)
- 12 Birth of the Baha'u'llah
- 13 World Kindness Day
- National Indian Pudding Day
- 14 Operation Room Nurse Day
- Children's Day (India)
- 15 Shichi-go-san, Japan
- National Clean Out Your Refrigerator Day
- 16 Button Day
- National Moms and Dads Day
- St. Margaret of Scotland's Day (patron of Scotland)
- 17 Homemade Bread Day
- National Baklava Day
- 18 Volkstrauertag (German Memorial Day)
- Vertieres Day (Haiti)
- 19 National Carbonated Beverage with Caffeine Day

Courtesy of www.web-holidays.com

SJC Poet's Corner

My Brother

My Brother plays with Matchbox cars. He says he "collects them," but I know he plays. He wakes up early on Saturdays, hugs the box of Cap'n Crunch between his pajama'ed legs and watches cartoons until noon.

My Brother reads Spiderman comics. He says he "only looks at the artwork," but I know he's hooked on every word. He plays football on the corner after the school bus drops him off and comes home with his khaki pants ripped and stained.

My Brother sleeps on Batman sheets. He says "only because they're comfortable," but I know he likes them. He listens to old-school rap music but hides the fact behind the cases of classical and jazz CDs.

My Brother got a call today. He says he "isn't scared," but I looked in his eyes. I saw his hands shake as he packed a small bag. I saw his lip quiver as he switched off his light.

My Brother's cars are dusty and Cap'n Crunch is stale. My Brother's comics are unread and pants remain whole. My Brother's sheets are taught and cold and stereo is turned off.

He holds in his small, boyish hands a weapon capable of stealing a human life where only yesterday lay his mother's protective palm.

-Becky Scherer

Tomorrow

Tonight I will not close my eyes For fear of the unknown I don't know what tomorrow brings Or where the day might roam.

For tomorrow when I wake up I know he will be gone And all that's left are memories Of a hug, a kiss, a song.

So If I never close my eyes Tomorrow'll never come Cause I don't want to say goodbye To all we've said and done

"Love" I whisper to the dark "Forever" in my dreams Will he remember yesterday? And all that this love means?

"Tomorrow's just another day" They scream and shout and sing But I just will not close my eyes For I know what tomorrow brings.

-Susan Kramer

The Eyes

Two eyes look down at many looking up. They brought the wine, the spikes. He, the hands, the feet, the tree. They took life where He gave it.

-Lance Crow

This silence is not golden But broken And breaking And aching And taking the soul from us The whole of us Til there is no us Til there is no you and me Separately Without unity or harmony So much beauty... Just a memory

-Kenny Shumard

Want to see your poetry in print? Submit your original work of poetry to Sandra Wood at swh4014@saintjoe.edu!!